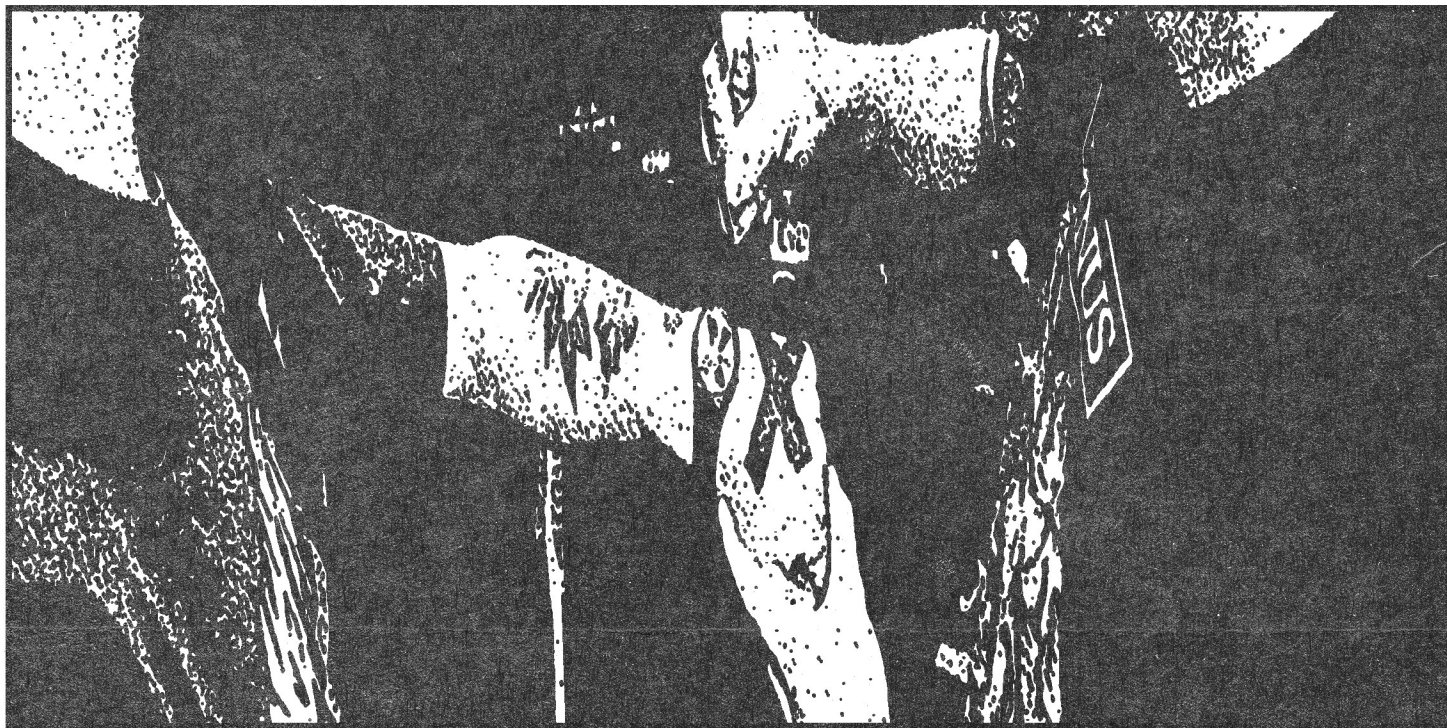


IMMORTAL WEAPON

Straight Edge Fanzine

Issue #3

For as long as I breathe...



I will be Poison Free.

EDGE DAY 2023

Inclination • XWEAPONX • TimeXHeist • Anklebiter •

XNOMADX • RS Records • Defiant Path •

**Immortal Weapon (band) • XSpit My RageX • Legendary Weapons •
Bayonet and more!**

EDGE DAY 2023

Yo, thank you for checking out this zine. Edge Day is here and I couldn't be more proud of this community. Being straight edge taught me the discipline I needed when I was a 17 year old kid with no goal in mind. If you struggle with substances and think you're ready for the next step after sobriety, claim edge. Claim it and never let go of it and your friends. Shout out to all my edge friends, shout out Inclination, Earth Crisis, TJ Hardcore, Magnitude, CM Punk, Brody King, Kevin Blackwood and more who inspired me to claim and stay edge.



foundation



DEFIANT PATH

Unfortunately as some of you may or may not know, Defiant Path split up a few weeks before this Issue came out, therefore DXP's interview won't be here. But that doesn't mean there isn't a section or a mention of them here. Defiant Path were my firsts design clients, I did mostly everything design wise for them, they gave me a chance to get experience at this craft and thanks to them I got better and better with time, I want to thank every single member of this band for believing in me, Defiant Path are my brothers, every single member of that band is my friend and I would do anything for them and I'm excited for their future in other projects. I know some of you were excited for the interview with them, myself included but it is what it is. Defiant Path lives within all of us who gave a fuck about that band, they were different when it came to Youth Crew bands and that's what I grabbed my attention of them when their demo dropped and the rest is history. Defiant Path is forever.

WHAT I HOLD INSIDE IS TRUE!

ANKLEBITER

Interview via Email with Rachael

IxW: Yo! Thank you for doing this and taking the time to be interviewed for Immortal Weapon. How are you doing?

R: Hey! Thanks for having me. I'm typing this up at my shit retail job right now trying to recoup from tour. Not the dream scenario for some, but I wouldn't change it for anything.



IxW: Anklebiter has been a band for a year now? It's been a crazy year for y'all and it makes me happy to see young people in hc doing the work, was this level of attention expected?

R: Absolutely not. This is my first band, but to everyone else in the band, this was more so a fun side project to their main bands. When we put out the demo, we didn't expect anyone but close friends to say anything — but our internet spaces kinda exploded. I remember all of us screaming in our drummer's car when we got a notification from Revolver. Music press has never been something I've been interested in, but it was a huge surprise to even be shared with that many people. I'm extremely grateful for the place we're in now.

IxW: This zine will be out for Edge Day so I'd like to hear your thoughts on straight edge, especially after the song Pearl came out to promote the TLAW EP. Would you mind giving me your thoughts on straight edge, what it means to you and the correlation with the song "Pearl"?

R: Without delving too deep into personal shit — addiction runs deep in my gene pool, and it's pretty unbearable to watch. I've seen it within my own family and others. I've received the brunt of these people's actions. Some of them are deplorable. Because of this, I've never touched a drug in my life. I'm what you might call "gold star" straight edge. Granted, that could be from being part of the anime club in high school and never getting invited out. Who knows.

IxW: Is the ultimate goal for Anklebiter to play a show with Paramore? lol

R: Dude, my ultimate goal is to see Paramore sometime in my life. If they wanna take us out somewhere, hit my line.

IxW: In all seriousness now, what is the actual goal for Anklebiter? You guys seem to be growing and growing each day.

R: Just to play as much music as I possibly can. Touring has been the most insane experience for me in the best way. I love playing sets. I love seeing the world. I love talking about being straight edge and shit. I wanna do it forever.



IxW: You guys toured with a bunch of homies we know, shout out Xcelerate, Steadfast, Resentment, Dogmatic. How was the tour yo? It looked like a very solid, very fun time. Can you share a fun story from this recent tour?

R: Dude both tours this summer were fucking ridiculous. It was truly an amazing time. Programme was our first ever headliner, and we sold it out. That was like, the most other worldly thing I'd ever experienced in the old brain. I'm so sad to be home from it. Story time: we got pulled over doing like 90 something in a 50 somewhere up the coast of California. Accidentally blasted Beyoncé while the cop was talking to us. He must've liked it cause we didn't get a ticket.

IxW: You guys blew me away with the announcement of you playing with the legends Judge, 108, and Risk, how did that come to be? Did you guys get hit up?

R: We got the email and were floored. Insane shows to be asked to play. Gonna be a big stage to work, but I think we can handle it. I hope!

IxW: What can we expect from Anklebiter after this October show you guys have with Judge?

R: Great question. We have studio time booked, and we have some unannounced shows, but not many. I think we're mostly chilling minus some Northeastern shows and the Flyover run. Couple shows out to that TBA.

IxW: I know Anklebiter is pretty new and has a handful of tours, but what would you say to a band that wants to tour? Any words of wisdom for them?

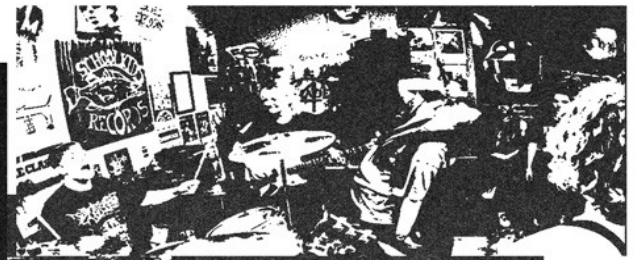
R: Dude just make music and try to play as many shows as you're comfortable playing. We played like 30 shows this summer all booked by our guitarist. Each time you come back, the show is gonna be crazier. The more you tour, the more opportunities you get to tour. Don't be discouraged by shot shows, it happens all the time. That's when you have fun with your bandmates and other bands on the bill during the set. Just have fun dude.

IxW: How would you describe your scene? Any other hardcore scenes you admire or love?

R: Anklebiter doesn't really have a scene to claim. I live like 5 hours from the rest of the band. All of us are residents of different states, actually. So kinda skipping to the second half of the question: this one is super obvious if you know me or the band, but we love and admire Springfield, IL's scene. Dopest shows ever. Dopest kids ever. They were all clowns when we played last year right before Act Like You Know, and now they're all skins. It's so awesome seeing them discover themselves. They're crazy moshers and almost all kids. If you're in a band that plays shows, route through Springfield.

IxW: That'll be all! Thank you so much I mean it, any parting words or shoutouts?

R: Shoutout the Northeast, Immortal Weapon, Splatoon 3, mango peach bubble tea, the band risk and Osiris sneakers dude. Those should make a comeback...



Pics from @artdumpjunk. armageddon recs and @Kaylaguilliams

BAYONET

Email interview with Manny from Bayonet

IxW: Thank you man for agreeing with this, shout out Isaac for suggesting Bayonet, how are you doing? How'd you know our boy Isaac?

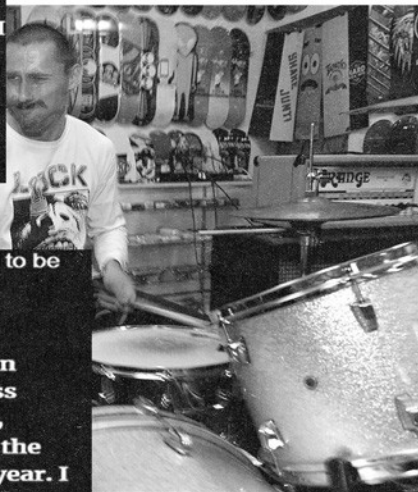
M: Thanks for having me! I'm doing well. I took some extra time off from work to relax after a pretty active July and August. Much love to Issac! We had been friends on IG for sometime, but met him officially last year at the Terror record release show at Garden Amphitheater. I noticed he was in the pit with a "Tijuana Straight Edge" shirt and was like, damn I think I know that guy from the internet.

IxW: Let's talk about Bayonet, I've been a fan since the first art for Total Massacre, the black and white art one. I think Isaac put me on it but I remember seeing an article on No Echo or something before he even suggested your band to me. How did Bayonet start?

M: Bayonet was the product of North County's very own, Matt Ants. That guy is always riffing away so while he was in another band, METH BREATH, he along with Michael and James had an idea for a more fastcore sounding band so they began to practice just the 3 of them. I remember they posted a vid of a sample of a new project and I was thinking whatever it was, it was gonna be sick. They recorded and were ready to play shows. They were looking for a Bass player so one day I got a text from Michael asking if I was down to play. I'm not a bass player, I never owned one or any rig at that point, but they had the equipment and all that I needed to do was learn the jams.

IxW: How'd you get into hardcore? and how much does it mean to you to be part of SDHC?

M: Hardcore, what a wild world it is. For me, I can't talk about hardcore without talking about punk. Punk is where it starts. In 1998, I had just gotten my first real skateboard, it was a sick ass World Industries deck, the red baron one. That year, in Santee, Woodglen Vista park had opened a skatepark which was down the street from my house. That was honestly such a monumental year. I was 9 and my mother was insane for taking me and letting me hang out there. Back then it was unregulated so you had people of all ages hanging out there, drinking and just being complete menaces. I absolutely loved it. While there I saw kids wearing Misfits shirts and Germs shirts and was naturally curious what that was, but it wasn't until a little later when I was 10 and my older sister started dating a dude I really looked up to named Anthony Geraldizo. This dude could skate and he was all about punk music. He let me borrow his CD book where he had all the gateway music. It was then I discovered The Ramones, The Misfits, Minor Threat and Gorilla Biscuits. He had kept the inserts of the CDs in there so when I saw the GB insert(it was the CD version of the 7") I was naturally curious as to what it was as it seemed different from all the punk CDs he had. That was my first introduction to Hardcore. My family had moved to northern CA for my middle school years and that's where I started my first punk band, The Anti Aesthetics, our sound was influenced by the DC scene and we did a lot of cool covers from The Misfits and Minor Threat. We moved back to SD when I was 14, and going to high school. The first show I went to here was The Blood Brothers at The Epicentre (RIP). That show was great as it showed me that there exists places where touring bands would come through and play shows. This was before smartphones and social media so I had to keep an eye out by picking up the free publication "The Reader" which would tell you who was playing and where. In high school, I was really into radical literature and would wear Che Guevara shirts(as one who reads Guerilla Warfare at 15 does) and it was my English Teacher, Mrs. Napoli who told me to check out The Che Cafe, the rest was history. Going to shows and seeing the SD/CV thrive has been a rewarding experience.



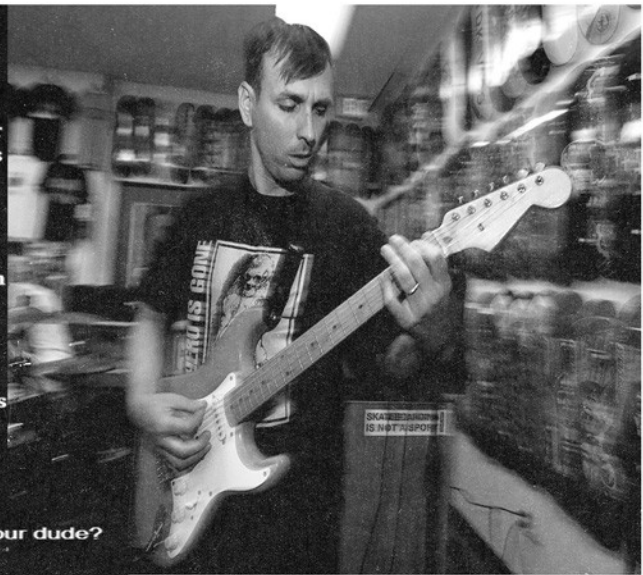
Pics taken from Indecision Records website

IxW: Talk to me about straight edge, how did you find it and what was the first band you checked out? What made you claim edge and still be committed?

M: In regards to Straight Edge, my sister's boyfriend mentioned above was the man who told me about straight edge. He identified as Edge and gave me the rundown and let me know that the band Minor Threat, who I had been listening to a lot having made a tape from his CDs, was an "Edge Band". At the time, he was very adamant that simply abstaining from drinking and doing drugs did not make one straight edge as it was a lifestyle, so although I liked the idea of it I really didn't understand what he meant. As I got older I knew being sober was what I wanted to be and later realized what he meant when he said it was a lifestyle. Straight Edge has now been an important thing in my life and has introduced me to people all over the country/world who share these same values and ideas. I also want to mention that although this lifestyle has helped me live my best life, we all walk different paths and that is something I want younger kids to learn. In hardcore and in life in general you'll meet people with different lifestyles and beliefs and it's ok to have homies who don't live a straight edge lifestyle. As long as you're a good person and do well by others, there's no reason we can't be friends and get along.

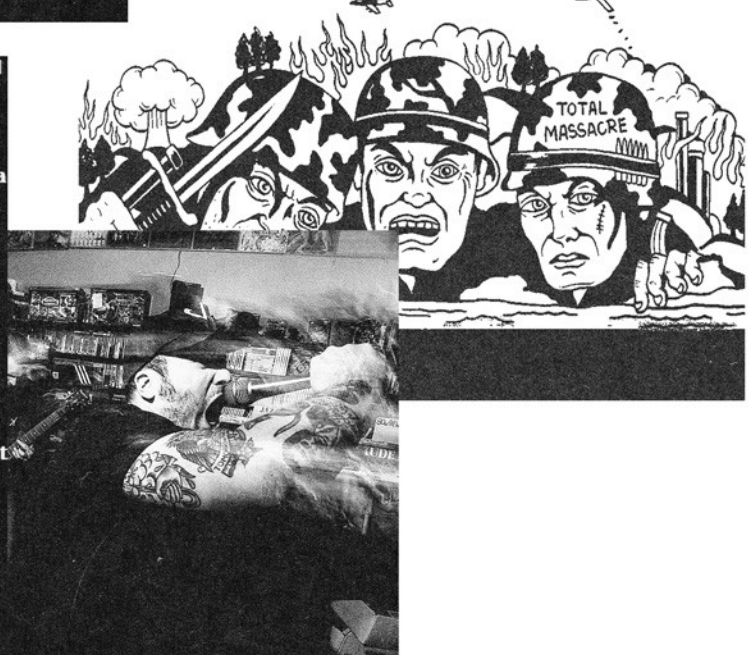
IxW: Bayonet did a tour with Entry not too long ago, how was the tour dude? Any fun stories from that tour?

M: The East Coast Tour!!! We had an absolute blast and s/o to Entry for having us. S/O to Peace Test and the Rhode Island scene. That was the second show we played and I'll always think fondly of it because while we were there we stayed with one of Michael's old friends, Rich Gaccione. Rich, who put on the show in Providence, let us crash at his house the night after we played Worcester, MA and the next night after we played Providence. It was my first experience with the DIY ethos of utilizing contacts in other states to find places to stay while on tour. He is such a rad dude and a great chef! Homie made an amazing vegan breakfast which included his Seitan that he makes and distributes around town. His seitan company is called "Born From Pain" and I recommend checking it out (especially the "Firestorm" flavor). He also plays in a band called EDICT, I also recommend checking them out. I wanna say s/o to NYC, Baltimore (probably the wildest show I've ever played), Columbus, Ohio and Bloomington, Indiana for making us feel extra loved. Also, s/o to New Jersey and all the Sopranos lore. That's one of my favorite shows and I got to check out the infamous BADA BING club from the show.



IxW: Two words: The Vegan Straight Edge, when did you claim vegan, and what does Veganism mean to you?

M: XVX all day and all night. Veganism is such a big part of my life. Going back to my younger days in high school when I was reading books and thinking I knew everything, I noticed that veganism was a big subculture within punk and hardcore. Being Mexican, which naturally made me a fan of Morrissey/The Smiths, I saw that he too talked about veganism. There was a kid named Nic in my 10th grade history class that I sat next to. Homie and I would chat about music and I remember he used to rock the classic Earth Crisis "Animal Liberation" shirt. I remember downloading a grip of their songs off p2p sites. At 15 I wasn't sure if I could be vegan, how could one give up tamales during Xmas or taquitos? That same year Joaquin Phoenix narrated the film "Earthlings" which I was able to find online. This film and all the music and literature I had read up to that point sealed the deal. I knew I wanted to be vegan so I gave up meat and shortly after dairy as well. It wasn't easy in the mid 2000s, but SD had some staples such as Mandarin Dynasty (RIP), Kung Foods (now Evolution) and of course Pokez. These places helped me see that you can enjoy your favorite foods without the killing of animals. S/O to Panda Country for supplying me with orange tofu and Estrada's Mexican for the potato rolled tacos. These 2 shops are in Santee, CA where I lived and frequented a lot in my teens.



IxW: Bayonet put out a promo this year, it's so killer dude, it sounds raw as hell, I loved it, if the promo sounds this good then what can we expect for Bayonet's next release? Is it an EP or LP in the works?

M: Thanks! The new demo was definitely raw as we recorded it in just a few hours. There's definitely more coming which I'll talk about a few questions down.

THE GRIP
STUPIDER THAN
YOU LOOK
BY FIND HIM AND KILL HIM
NO EXCUSE
BAYONETXXX@GMAIL.COM
BAYONET 2023
PROMO



Pics taken from Indecision Record's website and Bayonet's bandcamp

lxW: You have a DJ/Experimental project called Sins of the Father. I checked the latest single Where It Lands and I enjoyed it. I primarily listen to heavy shit so this is a breath of fresh air for me. Where does that passion for DJing come from?

M: Thanks for checking out SOTF! I really enjoy doing that and currently have a grip of tracks I've had on deck that I hope to turn into a full length physical release called "The North American Seppuku". Having been a lifelong fan of hip hop I remember DJ Premier did this song for Nike called "Classic" which had Kanye West, KRS-One, Nas, and Rakim. In the video it starts with preemo in the studio messing with samples on an MPC and he creates the beat for the song. I thought that was the coolest shit ever. I wanted to try that so years later I bought a midi keyboard with pads and had no idea what I was doing so I later sold it. A few years back and with more motivation I bought a stand-alone MPC and learned how to sample records directly into the MPC and have been having fun ever since. Turntablism(scratching) was inspired by Q-Bert and the Invisibl Skratch Piklz. The shit those guys do and the knowledge they share has really helped me feel confident scratching over beats. I met Q-Bert over the summer and that guy is truly one of a kind and super friendly/humble.



lxW: What does it mean to you to be on a label like Indecision Records?

M: Funny story, the first Bayonet show was at The Che Cafe in 2018 with Regional Justice Center. It was a fun show, but my phone had broken which sucks cause I had to go into the sprint store and get a new one. I remember I got whatever latest iPhone was out and when I turned it on the first text that popped up was from James who said something like "Hey where have you been? Did you get Mike's text? Indecision wants to put out a 7"!!!!". So after one show we already had a 7" secured haha. S/O to Dave and Indecision. He's put out so many great records over the years especially the Unbroken reissues(originally on New Age) which is so important because that is a band that means a lot to us and it's good to see kids who are starting record collections have the opportunity to pick up "Life, Love, Regret" and not be dead broke. Even today it's cool knowing we're on the same label as bands like FIELD OF FLAMES, RETALIATE and VENDETTA. After playing the I30 show, they said they wanna do another release so we're gonna take some time to really put our best foot forward and put out a full length.



lxW: With all this being said, any parting words? Shout outs, anything you'd like to say?

M: Much thanks for hitting me up to do this. I look forward to seeing the finished product. S/O to Heartwork Coffee, all the homies, my family, my doggs Silas "Meep" Cash and Selena Bell and HxC kids worldwide. On a final note, those who know me, know my mantra which comes from Slick Rick The Ruler... "Hey Young World, the world is yours."



BAYONET



TIME X HEIST

All pics for this interview provided by Ethan Cook

Email interview with Mark from Time XHeist

IxW: Yo! How are we doing boys? Thanks for taking the time on this, sorry I took my sweet time with this issue, I did promise to have y'all for this issue, you know how it is.

M: Doing great here. This is Mark, vocalist of Time X Heist answering all these. We're back from our 5 day run in Cali which was awesome. Gearing up for a couple local shows we have coming up and working on new material. Just staying busy.

IxW: How did Time X Heist happen? I know we have members of Spirits and Moral Law in it, so how was the approach to making a new band?

M: The idea to do a straight edge band came up when Robert from Spirits and I were doing Implied Risk together which was the band before this one. Xavier from Moral Law helped us get off the ground and record the first EP but he's since committed all his time to Moral Law. We have a 100% solid line up now so things are working really well and we're on track to do some cool stuff next year in terms of releases and touring.

IxW: I've had Moral Law for the first Issue of IxW but I want to ask you this question too, How would you describe the Denver Hardcore scene?

M: Denver hardcore scene is banging right now. Tons of great bands, tons of kids coming out to shows and supporting. We're lucky to have some really solid DIY venues too. You really couldn't ask for anything more.

IxW: This is something I want to tell Cheeseman: Dude, I remember when Spirits played TJ a longgg time ago, I think it was my first time ever seeing a straight edge band play, just want to thank you for coming to my hometown. Still own the Spirits LP and the shirt you guys had for sale at that show.

M: Robert is a man of few words but he appreciates all the Spirits love. Spirits fans are dedicated to say the least and we're glad to have won most of them over.

IxW: This being an Edge Day Zine, how did you find straight edge? What was the first band to click on you and claim the edge?

M: I vaguely knew what straight edge was when I started going to shows in the late 90's. I think the first time I saw someone X'd up was the Strife video for Blistered on the Cinema Beer Nuts video comp. It wasn't until a straight edge kid from Seattle moved to my hometown and we became friends that I really learned about it and got a better understanding of what Straight Edge was all about. He introduced me to all the NW bands that were big at the time as well as some of the more classic youth crew bands...and he also got me into The Smiths. Bane was a huge influence to me in the choice to give up substances and go straight edge. October will be 21 years for me I think.



IxW: The Odds Against Tomorrow is a pretty damn good debut release, I really really enjoyed it, were there any problems with making this release? What's your favorite song on TOAT?

M: We really appreciate all the good things people have had to say about it since it came out. Honestly I knew we had something cool when we were all done with it but I didn't expect it to catch on like it did. Writing and recording were actually really easy and painless. I think we learned a lot with the release of it in all the various formats we did and all the different labels we worked with. Remember When and Still Here are definitely my two favorite tracks on the record.



IxW: Best food spot in Denver, vegan and non-vegan:

M: Denver has some great food for sure. Best Vegan spot by far is Gladys's. Owned by two Denver Vegan Straight Edge legends Dave Grant and Rocky. For non-vegan food, man there's so many good spots. Hops and Pie, Pho 95, Tarascos/Kahlo's, Fire On The Mountain. Honestly I could go on and on. Denver's coffee game is on fire as well. Shout out to Little Owl, Queen City, Sweet Bloom and Procession Coffee.



IxW: Now onto something more recent, you guys have a split with Without Love from the UK, how did that connection happen? Was it because of Conviction Records who suggested you guys that band? Shout out to Conviction Records.

M: Us and Without Love just kinda found each other on Instagram and it was almost like a band romance. We just both really liked each other's music and thought it would be cool to do an international split. Love those dudes. Hope we get to play some shows with them somewhere next year.

IxW: There's been a shift in the straight edge lifestyle as of late, I'm sure you've noticed and I have been guilty of portraying that militant edge vibe, although is nothing new since it started in the early stages of ~~sxe~~, any thoughts on the more aggressive side of straight edge? Does it have a time and place?

M: I've always looked at Straight Edge as a personal choice. I'm not really here to push the way I live, that works for me, or anyone else because it might not be what works for them. I don't think Straight Edge is for everyone, honestly. A lot of the gun imagery and militant stuff just comes off as corny cosplay. Like you know those dudes aren't out in the woods training for The Straight Edge revolution. Who in bands around right now has gone to jail for the animals? It's good for a laugh and visually looks cool on merch but I can't take any of it seriously. No one is really out here being serious about killing for The Straight Edge.

IxW: How was the California tour? So bummed I can't catch you guys live yet, we've talked about TxH hitting TJ and I wish it happens, really love how much touring you guys want to do and put Time X Heist on the map.

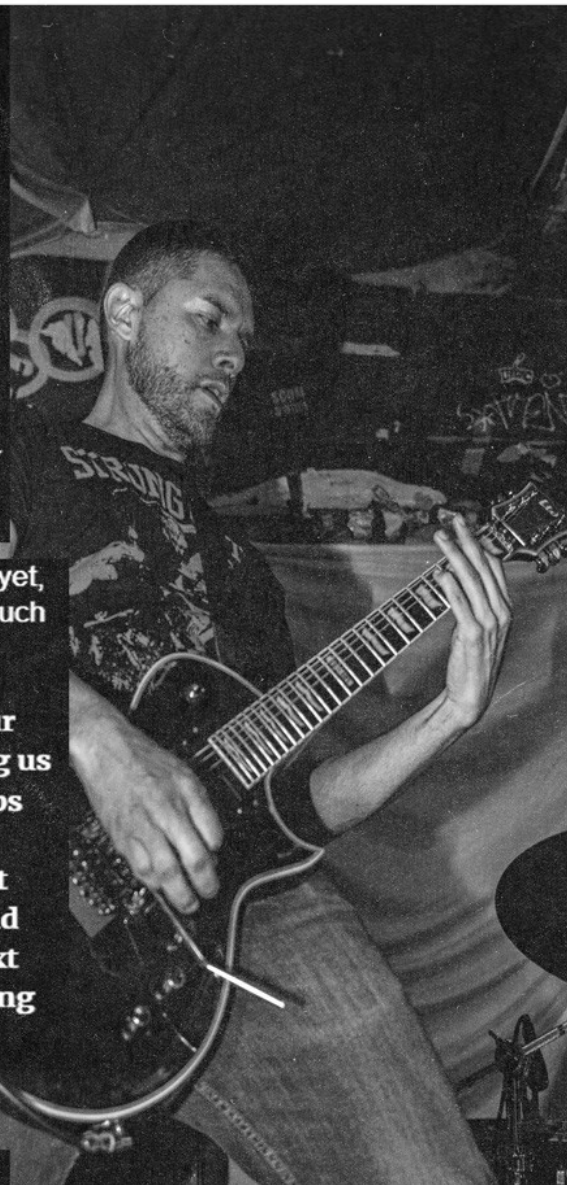
M: Except for getting bipped (car broken into) in Oakland, the tour was great. Shout out to Oakland Guitars for looking out and giving us a bass in our hour of need. Fresno and Tehachapi are must do stops for any band going to the West Coast. Also big shout out to Slow Death Promotions for helping us out with our San Diego show last minute. We're definitely planning on coming back to Cali soon and hopefully working on a TJ date. Other areas we're trying to hit next year are the North West, North and South East and Europe. Working on all of those as we speak.

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IxW: That's it yo, thanks for your time again, any parting words? Shout outs? Etc?

M: The Straight Edge lives through us. It gives to us. It is us. Always has been and always will be.



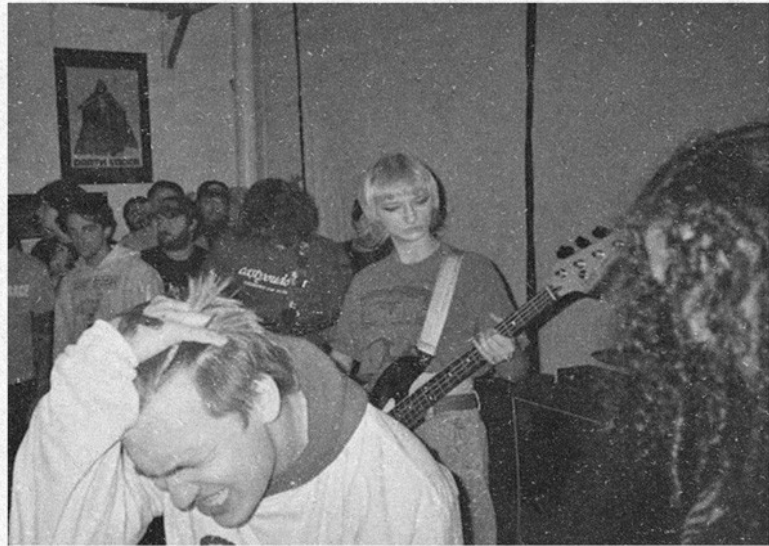
xnomadx

Interview via Email with Grady Allen

lxW: Yo thank you Grady for agreeing to this, means a ton. The first thing I gotta ask is how'd you get into Hardcore?

G: No problem! That's a good question, music has always been around me, my dad's a guitar player so there's always been guitars and old amps around the house, he played in bands nothing hardcore related but he saw Fugazi back in the day. Both my parents went to high school outside of DC, my mom saw the Bad Brains in the mid 80s, she saw one of the first Fugazi shows. She had friends in the DC Hardcore scene. When I heard about that at 15 when I started to get into Hardcore I was like "Oh you're cooler than I'll ever be". After the fact my mom showed me some deep cut DC Summer Revolution bands like Kingface, they're awesome.

I got into Nirvana as in the first "heavy/aggressive" band (after finding an old iPod with a bunch of music in it) then saw a Foo Fighters documentary where they talk about Sonic Highways and how they stayed in a city to record the sonic history of different cities. They did DC and the whole time they talked about the origins of Hardcore and I was like "this is cool, I'm going to listen to Minor Threat" and became the biggest Minor Threat fan. I started with the classics. At one point I started listening to Trivium and As I Lay Dying and that clicked with me.



lxW: Before talking about xNOMADx I want to know about xSHACx, is it still an ongoing project?

G: Since xSHACx is a solo project I haven't had the time to delegate. That project might turn into something different down the line. xNOMADx is what xSHACx was going to turn into but I don't want to make it a "xNOMADx 2.0" thing. My drummer Anders loves drum and bass stuff so we've joked back and forth about messing around with some ideas, might turn it into something jazzy, but that might be way down the line, we're already busy with a bunch of stuff. So, it's just a hiatus.

ephyra

lxW: This is an Edge Day zine issue, can I get you to talk about what it means to you to be straight edge?

G: It's one of the more important decisions I've made as a young adult. I think it's gotten me through some weird rough patches in my early 20s. Living in Savannah had its ups and downs, despite everything around me being out of control in a lot of cases there's always that aspect that I do have control over some things and I choose to be sober. I could've very easily said I was still edge and drunk but I chose not to because I don't have a need to use substances. Also I think in the time I've been edge has been a great jumping off point cause there's so many edge people who are active in different social moments, radical politics if you want to call it like that. Straight Edge is this ability to take care of yourself and keep people around you and your community. The community aspect is really dope and I have done a lot of dope things thanks to straight edge. Like xNOMADx, there's not a lot of straight edge bands in the north east let alone vegan straight edge bands and we're getting a decent amount of buzz thanks to being on Ephyra.



Pics taken from Rottenlens and Hardcorehotshoe

lxW: What's xNOMADx's collective opinion on Vegan Straight Edge and Vegan Activism?

G: Vegan Straight Edge has such a rich history within hardcore, even past the 90s. There's a band me and Einar are really into called I Have Dreams, screamo straight edge bands that are really influential on xNOMADx. There's been a resurgence of VXV bands and straight edge bands in the last year. Moral Law put out their LP last year, we have Ultimatum, xApothecaryx, Miracle from Florida. I will rep it hard even though they're not a straight edge band. It's amazing to see friends do well playing hardcore music.

xNOMADx is a message driven band, everyone in xNOMADx is vegan edge and to talk about stuff like the ALF (Animal Liberation Front), Anarchism and talking about related political things like Cop City and all other Ecological things happening with the planet and other social issues I think is important and has to be redirected in Hardcore. The band's collective opinion is that we need to re-focus on those aspects in Hardcore. Hardcore is a counter culture.



lxW: xNOMADx has been one of the most talked about bands in a very short time of the band's existence, how'd you feel about this?

G: I think we just kinda hit it on the right place at the right time and we are in an awesome label. Daze had a lot to do with this since the co-release with Since My Beloved and people started checking Ephyra thanks to that. We got a lot of eyes thanks to Daze, we kinda got sandwiched together, and we're doing a lot of things thanks to that, it's been really humbling. It made me appreciate how much effort I've put into bands that I've been in to be on this point with xNOMADx.



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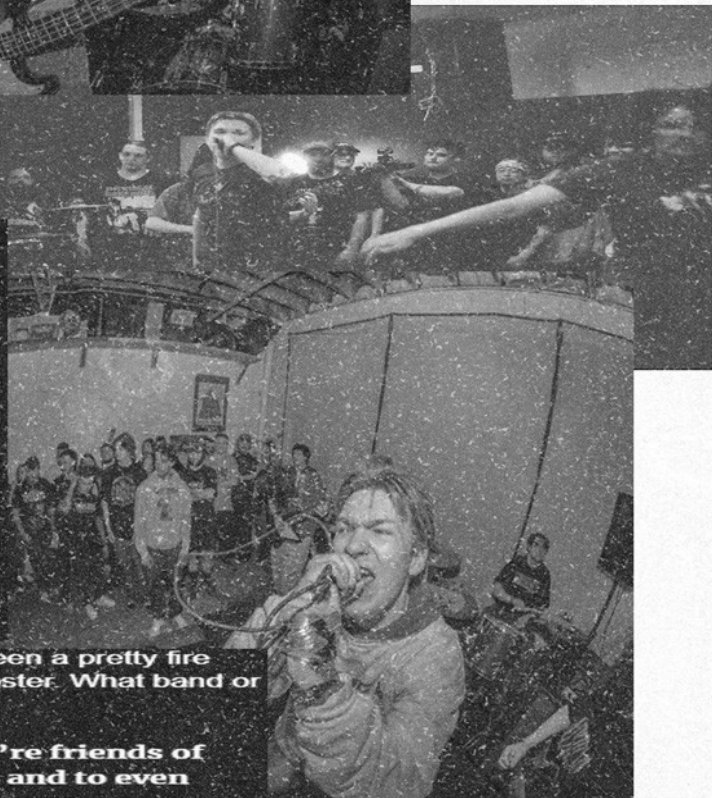
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lxW: You guys have a new EP coming later this year, what can we expect from it? You guys got a new sound or are you staying Metalcore?

G: It's definitely still Metalcore, we're going to have some clean singing but not in the same way Killswitch does it, we're definitely experimenting, some songs are a bit longer but nothing too crazy. I would say, it's a bit less meathead-y I feel like the demo is very mosh oriented and this one is a bit less, there's still dumb breakdowns that's not disappearing at all. We're messing around with some clean singing and more guitar work, we'll see what sticks and what doesn't for the next material. This is a personal thing so I can't speak for the rest of the band but this is a project I think will still be interesting over time. Everything but one riff I wrote but I want more input from the other members down the line. There's still a lot of musical journey for xNOMADx, everything that you liked from the Demo is still there in the EP.

xNOMADx being on Ephyra makes a lot of sense and it's been a pretty fire label to be on, you guys fit so well in the already massive roster. What band or bands would you like to be a part of it?

G: I feel very fortunate that we are on that label, they're friends of mine and the fact that they have the confidence in us and to even agree to put the demo out with no full lineup yet. We were theoretically having Brandon from Balmora do drums live even though he's not vegan but we're getting shit together. It was a very special moment for us to have the demo out in April. One band to be on Ephyra is kinda difficult to answer, there's certain ones that I can't talk about but they've been releasing old mass bands I think a Die My Will or Tears of Avel, especially Tears of Avel which is a band a lot of people should give it a listen. I think a west coast band would be dope like Spear of Cassius. I know Field of Flames just got in Streets of Hate but I think it would've made sense to be on Ephyra.



lxW: What are your thoughts on being part of the Mass scene?

G: I'm currently in very southern Vermont but I got to Western Mass shows, I don't totally count but New England as a whole and CT have such great Hardcore history despite losing venues. Younger people are making bands and dope cause that's what matters, no one expects 16 year old kids to be the next TUI, it's about learning the aspects of navigating the scene and booking and all the logistics and stuff, which are things you can apply onto your life as a whole. 99% of the people who are in big bands have started with many bands that didn't go past a demo. Our EP release show is going to be in Mass so we're pretty excited about that.



lxW: Segway, who's the hardest moshers from Mass?

G: Peyton is going to be our designated moshers for our shows. Western Mass puts so much emphasis on style like Lumpy, we have Ethan from Opposition seeing him is sick, he's so fluid and there's shit I've pulled from him. Now that Einar is back I would say them, they love talking about dancing.



lxW: What are xNOMADx's future plans after the EP is out? I hope you guys get to be on tour on the west coast soon, I think the people would love you here.

G: We definitely want to tour the West Coast, I would love to. We've been discussing it with some people over there so I can't say much about it and nothing is set in stone at the moment. We have a show or two coming after the two runs. We've been focusing a lot into getting the EP out and this tour out, and I have been taking time into making all the legal shit when it comes to paypal and shit like that so we don't get fucked over. I'm sure we'll get more offers when the EP is out and the tour's done. We have a show in Philly then a show on the 26th in Mass. After the two tours we have a show in CT in November but there's stuff in the works!



lxW: Thank you for your time my brother, any parting words?

G: Shout out Ephyra, Adrienne, Balmora, Since My Beloved and every band in Ephyra, shout out Western Mass, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, South East Hardcore, all my Orlando friends, everyone else I'm blanking on. Last but not least: There's been a lot of vegan breaking and that needs to stop, it's not straight edge. You can reclaim it at any point you just gotta eat your vegetables. Hardcore as a whole needs to stop simping over McDonalds for 3 seconds and everyone needs to start eating their vegetables, those are my final words: Put down McDonalds and eat your vegetables.



RSR WORLDWIDE

Email interview with Josh from RS Records

IxW: Thank you boys for your time, how are we doing? Can we have a little introduction of what is RS Records?

J: Hello! Thank you for having us! I am super stoked to be on this super sick zine of yours! RS Records is a label made up of friends that love hardcore and want to release sick band's music on physical formats as well as get some merch made for them.

IxW: How did the label start? Who's the mastermind behind RS?

J: We all met virtually, and the idea of a label got brought up and we all were down for it and came together and got things going! Our first release was more of a test run to see how it worked, and it was my band Inhumane Execution's demo. Daze got us in contact with the person who does his CDs and we did a run of them and got a website and social media made! RSR has a good amount of people helping out with it, but if there had to be one "mastermind" I would say it's Dan. He ships everything, runs the social media, and gets physical formats as well as merch submitted. He was also one of the first people to bring up starting a label. I would say everyone that is a part of the label puts in a good amount of effort to make things work though.

IxW: How did you guys get into Hardcore?

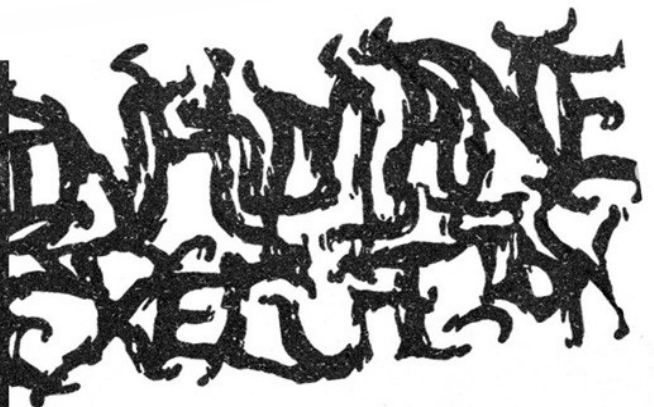
J: I got into hardcore through punk music really. In eighth grade my friend showed me a lot of punk bands and as I got more into punk I discovered youth crew bands like Youth of Today and Gorilla Biscuits and from there discovered beatdown or harder bands the more I got into it.

IxW: RS being from different parts of the US, how would you describe your respective scenes?

J: I lived in California for most of my life but I now live in Boston. The California scene is amazing. From the Bay to LA, there's a ton of great bands and the shows are always a lot of fun. The scene in the northeast is also amazing. The northeast has a great blend of youth crew, beatdown, metalcore, powerviolence, etc. bands and all of them are great. Overall, all the hardcore scenes in the areas of the people who help out with RSR are super sick.

IxW: For the Straight Edge folk in RS, what does sxe mean to you and how did you find out about it?

J: I found out about straight edge in eighth grade through youth crew bands. Going to a school where drugs and partying was so common and something that the majority of my class did, I felt kind of crazy for thinking it was stupid and thinking that it's something that wasn't for me at all. Hearing bands like Youth of Today and Uniform Choice talk about a straight edge lifestyle and saying that it's okay to stay away from substances or alcohol really made me feel like I wasn't actually crazy at all for thinking that way and that same year I started to call myself "Straight Edge." Being straight edge is something I am very passionate about and something I'm committed to for the rest of my life. To quote a line from "No One Writes Protest Songs Anymore" by Foundation, "I'd rather be crazy if this is what you call sane."



ixW: What are some of the misconceptions of having a record label?

J: I don't think this is the case with the majority of hardcore or extreme metal records, but I feel like definitely a lot of the HUGE labels out there that handle mainly huge pop or rap artists really only give a shit about profits and not as much about the music. Like I said, I really doubt that's the case with a lot of punk or hardcore or metal labels, but I think there are people who think all labels ONLY do it for the money. I can't speak for the other labels out right now for those genres I said, but I really doubt that is the case for them. I can say for RSR though that profits and making a lot of money is not important to us. We do it because we love hardcore and we all share a huge passion for something that has done so much for us.

ixW: How do bands approach you to be on RSR? Do you guys approach or do bands hit you up for a chance?

J: A bit of both! We've had bands reach out to us and ask us to check out their music and put it out, and we have also contacted bands we liked or bands that were made up of our friends and asked if they were interested in getting their release put out.

Let's have some fun, what is a trend in hardcore that needs to go and one that needs to come back?

J: I don't know if this is necessarily a trend, but I think people need to stop acting like people in hardcore bands are celebrities. I think it's weird as fuck. I don't know if this is also necessarily a trend that has "gone away," but hardcore songs need more badass guitar solos.

ixW: What is something that RSR collectively agrees on when it comes to getting a band on the label?

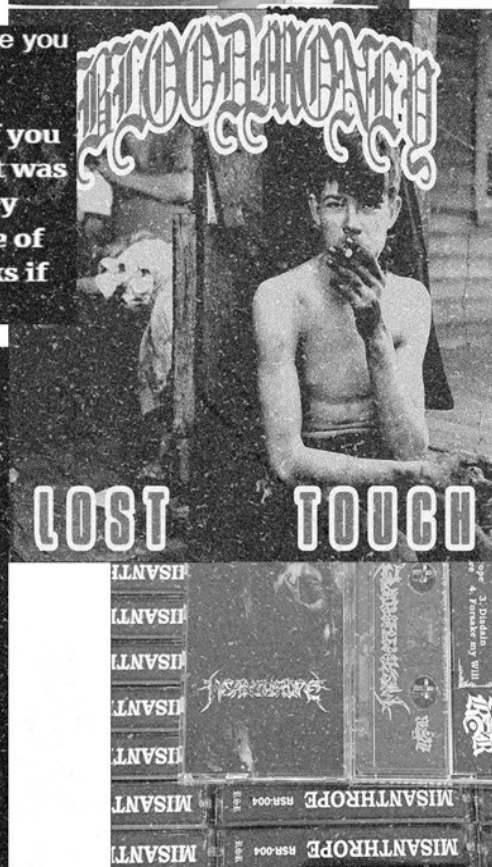
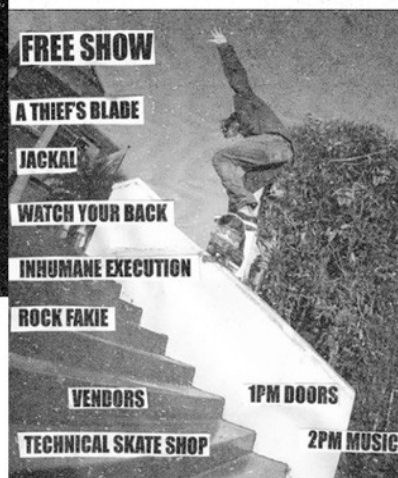
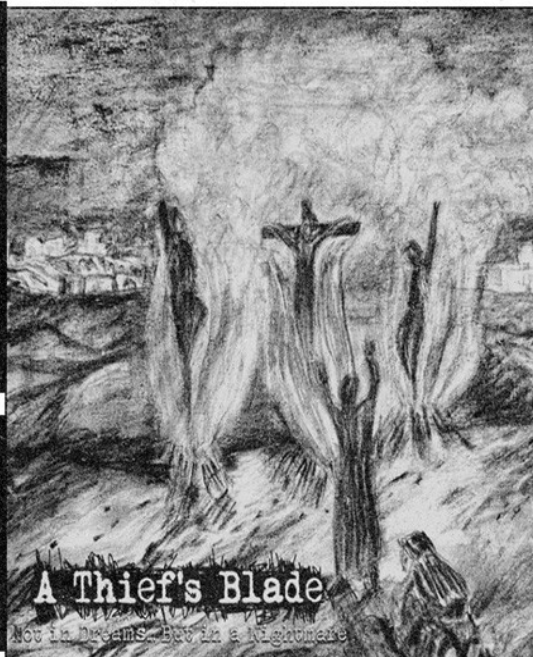
J: They have to be dope.

ixW: What advice would you give someone who wants to start a label like you guys did?

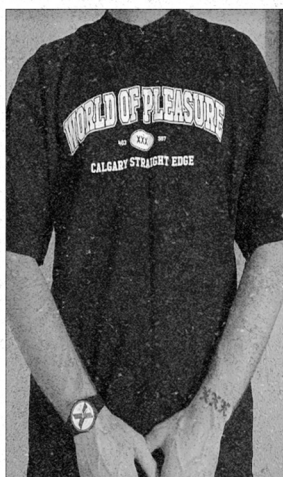
J: Don't be afraid to ask for advice from friends that run labels if you have any! I have never helped out with a label before so a lot of it was new to me, but as time went on things weren't as difficult as they were at first. I would recommend starting out by putting out one of your friend's releases as a "test run" in a way to see how it works if you are very new to it.

That's all my dude, thank you for your time, what are the future plans for RSR? Shout outs or any parting words?

J: Right now the plan is to keep putting out dope releases, start doing vinyl one day, and start getting shows for the bands on our label! Thank you so much for including us in this! Please support all the other labels that constantly put out great releases and put on for hardcore. Support Ephyra, Daze, Triple B, Streets of Hate, Creator Destructor, Maggot Stomp, Northern Unrest, The Coming Strife, Scheme Records, Barbaric Brutality, From Within, Rebirth, Flatspot, Revelation, Closed Casket, and all of the other record labels I'm blanking on that have put out great releases. Learn how to play an instrument if you don't know how to start a band, continue to go to shows and support the bands in your local scene, and start a zine if you can! I don't think one scene can ever have "too many" bands. The more bands in your local scene the better! Shoutout Immortal Weapon Zine! XXX



Immortal Weapon: Reader's Tattoos



Anthony DeMarco
Kansas City, Missouri



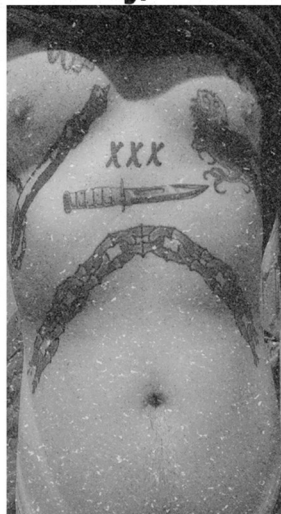
Kiwi Carneiro
Maracaibo, Venezuela



Ezra Shneyderman
Rochester, NY



Amy Carla, Ventura County
Art by: @jordystrange and @danielsan_138



Matt, from Brampton
Ontario, Canada.
Shoutout Flower City Hardcore



Magnus
Hamburg Germany Done by: @dirtbagxchaz



Jaycob



Jess, Texas



Harris, Atlanta



Isaac Hernández
Ensenada, BC, Mexico



Andrés Loma
AKA Jason Hill
Tijuana, BC, Mexico

IMMORTAL WEAPON

Interview via Email with Harris and Josh

IxW: First of all thank you for doing this, how are we feeling dudes?

H: Feeling great, stoked on how things are going so far, hope things are well with you

J: Feeling pretty alright, I've had a lot going on as of late with school stuff, music (not related to HC/IW or anything), and some social stuff, but I've still been able to find time to chill out and write new stuff for Immortal Weapon and my other projects. Hope you're doing good too.

IxW: Yo, your demo came out a couple of months ago by the time this interview gets to you, how was the reception for the demo? Really enjoyed it and it's always dope to see young bloods put out music and keep hc alive

H: Honestly, and as I read this it's only been about two weeks since the release, the response we've gotten so far has been really dope. I really didn't expect anybody to give a shit, so I'm super stoked. I love this scene so much.

J: Pretty similar to Harris I didn't think that people would really care much, so when we started to get followers and stuff it kinda blew me away y'know? and especially now that the demo is out and people still care it really blows me away.

IxW: What inspired Immortal Weapon? what I mean it's what made you start a band

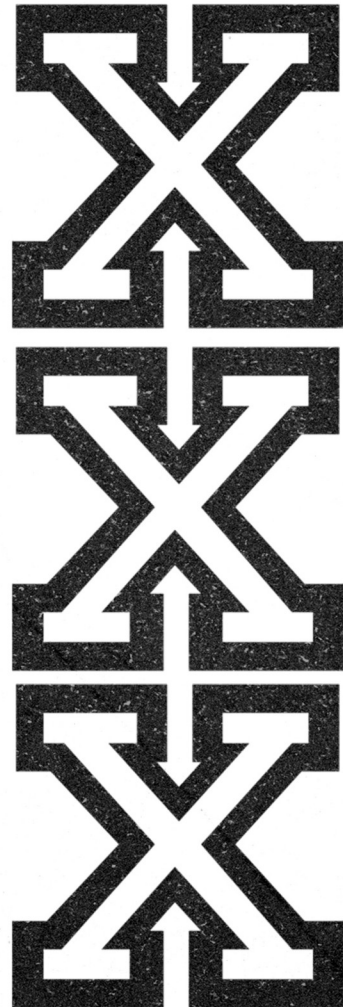
H: I've been going to shows for years, but I didn't see a legit DIY until this year. I've always wanted to be in music, a couple years back I decided I wanted to be in a band, and getting into the DIY scene and seeing local shows where everyone knows each other and it's really just one big party really inspired me to try to make it happen, even though I don't live up where the scene is yet.

J: I've wanted to do something related to sXe for a while now. I'm not sure where it started, I think it was sorta a natural thing that came out of my love for Youth Crew and some of the newer stuff like Magnitude, Ecostrike, etc. outside of that I really don't know. I didn't have any specific moment where I suddenly wanted to write something that sounded like Immortal Weapon does.

IxW: Edge Day Zine so you already know the deal, what does straight edge mean to you? You, boys, are young and already claimed edge, any reason why?

H: Straight edge saved my life. Well, on the other side of the coin, the ones I love saved my life, but I ultimately had to make that choice for myself and there isn't a day that goes by where I regret it in the slightest. Addiction runs in my family, and I've had my share of struggles with it, and watching people I care deeply about fall into the tropes of it and not being able to help them because I'm in the same boat really made me ask myself, "is this really how you're gonna spend your life?" I never really thought there was another answer to that question, and I'm forever grateful that I found it.

J: I think I claimed edge 2ish years ago, but I've been around the culture for much longer than that. My family has a pretty long history of substance abuse and alcoholism and I've heard about and seen the effects that that stuff has on people's lives and the ones around them so I sorta figured that the best way to prevent that happening to me was to not ever mess with that sorta stuff and just stay away. Outside of that edge is also just something to give me purpose and make myself a better person.



lxW: On the same token, when and how did you discover straight edge? Was it older friends, your parents or just plain curiosity

H: I always kinda knew it existed, like being heavily invested in the sphere of music it exists in even before I got into hardcore specifically I was always aware it existed, but getting into Magnitude was when it really clicked for me, when I was like "oh shit, I could actually fucking do this."

J: I think I discovered it via my dad, and a bit online too. My dad's not straight edge but he's a huge hardcore dude and was a part of the 80s/90s HC scene in the north east so I think it just sorta naturally came up in some of our conversations about Hardcore. Outside of that I think I just organically found about it online and through bands like Youth of Today, OKD, and some other stuff.

lxW: Give me your top 5 sxe bands, I'm very interested in what you boys have on there, no order.

H: Magnitude, One King Down, Have Heart, Prevention, Foundation.

J: Youth Of Today, Outburst (I think lol if not then OKD), Magnitude, Gorilla Biscuits, Turning Point. I'm not sure if those are the best or most important but they are definitely what I bump the most.

lxW: When can we expect Immortal Weapon to play shows?

H: Shit lol, I've been thinking about that a lot myself. With one member in middle Georgia for at least a year and the other in North Carolina for the foreseeable future, it definitely would be a while but once I move up to Atlanta next year it will be much easier to figure it out.

J: Honestly I have no clue. I hope someday we can, but because of my age (I am just now going into high school) and how far apart we are it's really hard to make happen. My goal is to play a few shows tho someday, but when and where is completely up in the air right now. Us being a two piece also complicates it a bit.

lxW: Shout out to Armageddon Records cause I'm going to use his catchphrase: What's happening in your scene? Tell me about it.

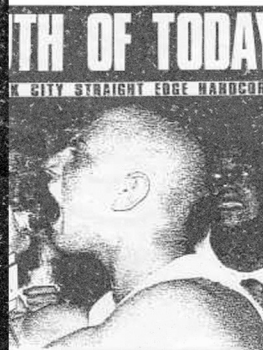
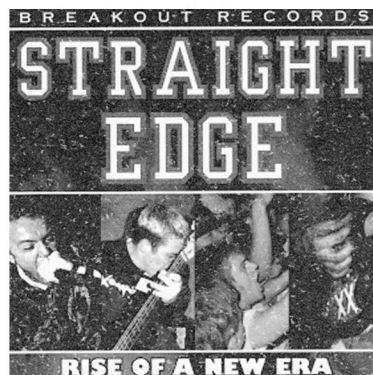
H: Lots of cool shit. New venues popping up, new bands, new friends, very proud to be a part of this scene, it's like one big family. Huge thank you to my boys Hazel and Dash for bringing me into this shit, shout out to the homies in Can't Keep Up, shout out to City Violence, Get Buck, Knife Wound, Life Of Pain, shout out to all my friends dude, Atlanta hardcore forever.

J: A lot of good things. There's a lot of cool local shows going on and some bigger ones too. I think that the scene here is a bit newer than a lot of others and tbh I'm a little new too but I think that it's sick for what it is. There's still a lot of really sick stuff going on here even if it's not the biggest hardcore scene or whatever it's still one of the best imo.

lxW: That's gonna be it dudes, what can we expect from Immortal Weapon in the future? Parting words? Shout outs? Etc?

H: Thank you for having us on man, this has been an absolute honor, I think I got all my shoutouts out of the way in the last question, but we're in the process of writing some more music, Josh is on mixing duties for this one so it'll definitely sound better than the demo lmao, by the time this comes out it might even be finished, who knows. Thank you to all the homies that have put on for this band, shit means the world to me.

J: Shout out to NC, shout out Bloodmoney from texas and RSR, they're both doing really sick stuff right now, shout out to Ends of Sanity, Fading Signal, Invoke, Eyezwideshut, and all the sick NC bands out right now. Shout out New Brookland Tavern in SC they got a go fund me up right now I'm sure anything would be appreciated by them, and shout out to Hitbox. As far as Immortal Weapon goes we're working on a new EP right now which I'm Hoping will be out during the fall sometime. I'm working on the new Forgxten EP which might be the last I'm not sure right now. Lastly, thanks for the chance to be in your zine man, it's very much appreciated.



LEGENDARY WEAPONS

Email interview with Davis and Sky.

IxW: What's up boys, how are you doing? Thank you for your time. Want to ask how this project came up? Really loved the demo!

D- This project was something I've wanted to do for years but never found the right people to do it with. They either weren't vegan and straight edge, didn't have the time, or didn't write the style I was looking for. One day I randomly messaged Sky and said "want to be in a No Tolerance type band that's all about Kung Fu and Horror?" He immediately was in and began writing.

S- Yo! Thanks for having us. I think basically this band came together naturally through our friendship and common interest. We both love a lot of the same bands and share a lot of the same fandoms outside of hardcore, so this is all of that channeled into one thing and we're having a lot of fun doing it.

IxW: This is a question for Sky since I already got Davis' answer from the first issue, I ask all my guests this: How'd you get into hardcore?

S- I started listening to punk/hardcore and metal bands when I was really young, like elementary/middle school but I was kind of eating up anything that was aggressive music with people yelling. Was really into everything I could get my hands on from Dead Kennedys to Slipknot. I didn't really meet anyone in hardcore until I started going to shows in high school, saw Terror and Comeback Kid within a few months of each other when I was like 15 and nothing else I had seen pulled me in the same way since.

IxW: Legendary Weapons is such a sick name for a band, I know it's from a movie I need to watch after this interview, but my question is, was that the first name for the band? Care to share some of the names that didn't make the cut?

D- I wanted the band to be No Tolerance worship so the original name was Pay the Cost (apparently that's a band now). Sky did not like the name... so then we got really stuck on the name Born Invincible (our ep name that came out today.) But once again Sky wasn't sold on that either. Finally after going through every Kung Fu movie name imaginable we hit Legendary Weapons because A. Legendary Weapons of China is a great movie B. We both love Wu Tang and their album Legendary Weapons.

S- It took us so long to agree on a band name that we had actually written the demo and EP almost completely before we decided on it hahaha

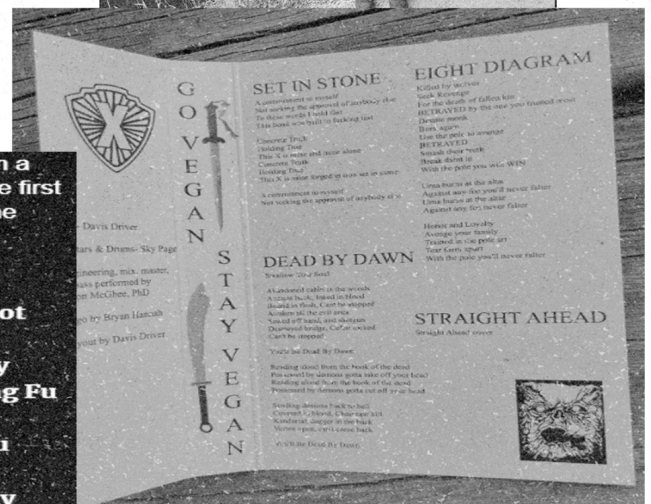
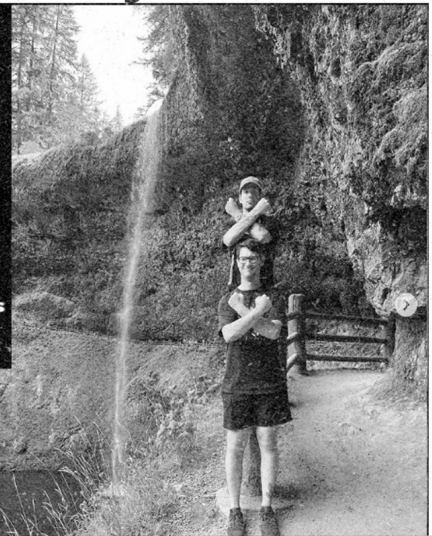
IxW: Yo Davis, how's Portland treating ya?

D- Portland has been treating me great. Absolutely love being able to hike/explore all the time with my partner and dogs. Going from Texas that has 3 Vegan restaurants to the vegan mecca of the US has been incredible. I've made friends and loved living up here.

IxW: This zine is an Edge Day Issue, so I want to ask both of you what does straight edge mean to you?

D- Straight Edge has always been a personal thing for me. Like in our demo song "Set in Stone", a commitment to myself, not seeking the approval of anybody else. I think it's important to have strong personal convictions for yourself. It's not a trend or a way to fit in.

S- I've been calling myself straight edge for 15 years, sober my whole life. There's plenty of trauma that I could share for my reasons for claiming and remaining straight edge, but I'd rather focus on the friendships and opportunities that it's guided me towards. Straight edge is a beautiful thing in a country and a world that normalizes the things that made my childhood at times very difficult, and I find a common thread with a lot of people I meet that are straight edge, or that even called themselves straight edge and don't anymore, but it changed their path for the better.



lxW: In the same topic, I've seen lots of young kids claim edge, I think it's pretty cool but I've also seen people break. In my opinion, there are two kinds of people who break edge: the ones that deal with previous struggles and the ones who thought it was a phase and later on shit on sxx like it meant nothing to them, can I get your opinion on this?

D- This is the perfect question because our new song Mr X is about the ones who talk shit. I really don't care if you break because it's got nothing to do with me. Just don't go running your mouth.

S- Not everyone is built to last. And that's OKAY. I have no ill will toward anyone that's broken... UNLESS they talked some shit after they broke. Loser mentality.

lxW: Thoughts on the Straight Edge Kegger.

D- I'm a big fan of horror and SOV type movies. This movie isn't good because the edge kids lose to the drunk party people?! How does that make any sense?

S- That movie is what I imagine people think straight edge is when their only familiarity comes from the internet or that one gangland episode. hilariously out of touch.

lxW: I know next to nothing about the movies LW is inspired by, can we get a recommendation for starters?

D- For Kung Fu: 36th Chambers, 5 Deadly Venoms, 7 Grandmasters, 8 Diagram Pole Fighter, Master of the Flying Guillotine, Masked Avengers, Legendary Weapons of China, Wheels on Meals, Knockabout, The Legend of 7 Golden Vampires.

For Horror: Evil Dead, Possession, Phantasm, The Burning Moon, Re-Animator, The Thing, Tombs of the Blind Dead, Dead Alive, Mad God, The Burning.

S- I'll let Davis take the kung fu recs and hit you with 5 horror movies that I want everyone to watch that might not be on the average horror casual's radar.

House of Wax (1953), From Beyond, Possession (1981), Black Sunday, The Living Dead at Manchester Morgue

lxW: The Vegan Straight Edge?

D- is the only straight edge

S- Listen to Earth Crisis

lxW: Is LW planning on playing shows soon? What do we have planned for LW?

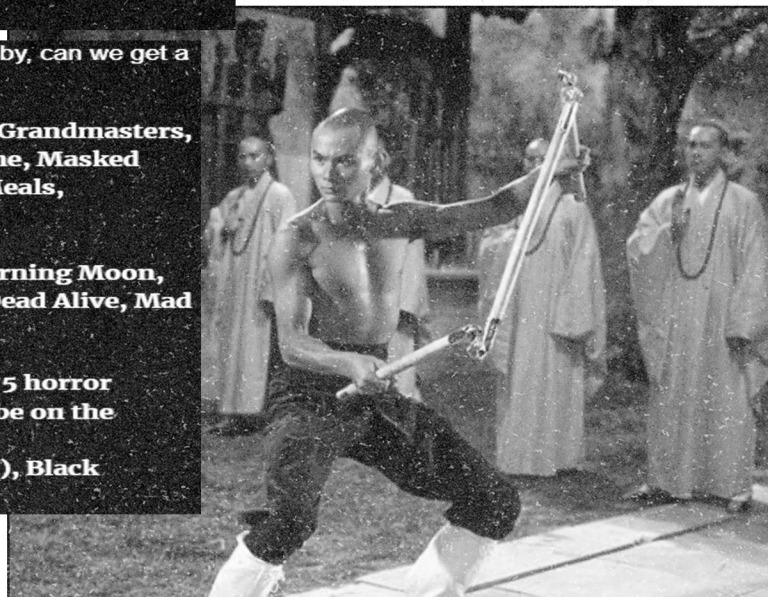
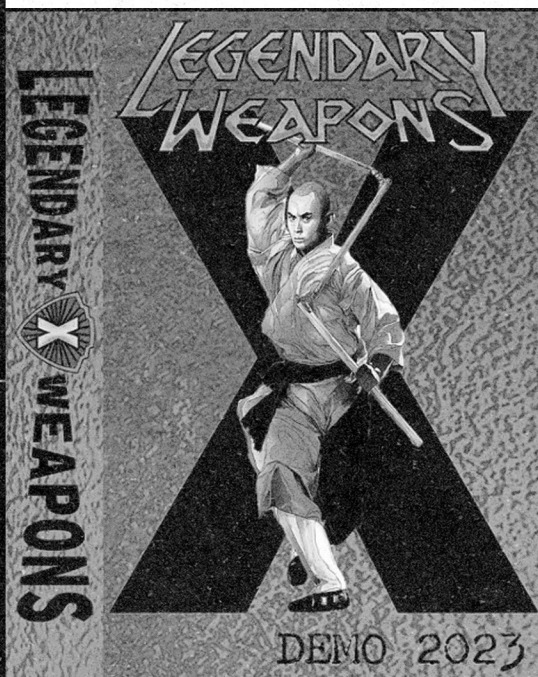
D- We are currently working on trying to play a show in December. Nothing is set yet.

S- First EP out on Edge Day (I think the same day this zine is out? Sick) Recording EP2 this Winter Shows???? We'll see. Doing what we want when we want to. Having fun with it.

lxW: That'll be all my friends, any parting words? Say whatever you want!

D- Born Invincible is out now!! We have tapes and shirts ready to go so head over to Bandcamp! Also this band is 100% for fun and we will keep making music as long as we are enjoying it. GO VEGAN. STAY VEGAN. Happy Edge Day and if you're not now you never were.

S- Thanks for taking the time to put this together! For those reading, GO VEGAN. Challenge the way that you have been conditioned to think about animals as a commodity, do the one simple thing that you can do to stop contributing to the suffering of intelligent, emotional beings and stop putting their flesh on your plate. We have more resources now than ever available to help you on your way to loving animals and not just saying you do. If you're already vegan, you're sick. We love you.



SPIT MY RAGE

Live pic via @ffrankiefotos

Interview via Email with Fauz

IxW: How are we doing Fauz?! Thanks for agreeing to this. Let's start with the all-time question. How'd you get into Hardcore?

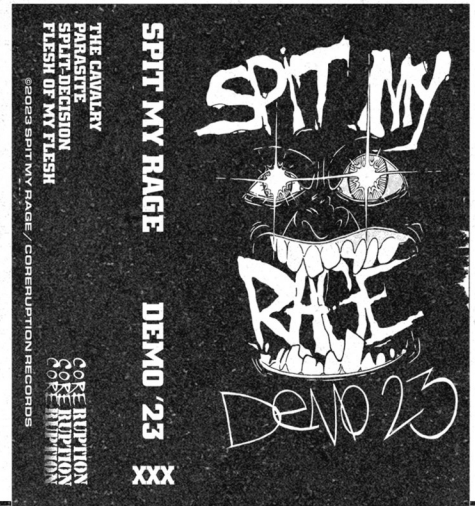
F: No problem dawg the pleasure is mine! Thank you for asking me to do this. So for me, my introduction to hardcore started with this band called The Thermals, who weren't a hardcore band at all but had punk rock leanings. I saw a music video for one of their songs called "now we can see" play on the Cartoon Network when I was a kid and I immediately fell in love with them. I went down a rabbit hole with their discography and found a music video for one of their songs called "I don't believe you" which had Carrie Brownstein from Sleater Kinney in it. Someone in the comments had pointed out how there was a cool Black Flag poster in the background which had me curious so I decided to look them up and from that point on I was hooked. From Black Flag I had discovered other styles and eras of hardcore like NYHC and Youth Crew till I eventually found more contemporary stuff and became aware of the fact that my city had a local scene of its own which I immediately wanted to be a part of. Fast forward to ten years later since the first show I've attended (Power Trip's record release for Manifest Decimation in Fort Worth) and here we are.

IxW: XSpit My RageX has been on a roll as of late, tons of shows announced, how's the band doing and how are you dealing with this amount of support?

F: The band has been doing well! As of writing this, the demo has been out for about for almost a month and we just announced a show that we are gonna be playing in September with Restraining Order. We've also been jamming some new material as well that we're hoping to put out sometime towards the end of the year. The amount of support and love we've gotten has been unexpected. We all kinda walked into this project with low expectations tbh. We just wanted to write a demo in a style that we love that we could all be proud of even if other people didn't fuck with it. However, the complete opposite has happened in terms of the amount of support we've gotten, it feels unreal haha.

IxW: You boys being from Fort Worth, how's the scene over there? Is it primarily Hardcore? Punk? Metal or mixed?

F: It's honestly pretty mixed out here but I'd say a good majority of the bands here are of the Metalcore/Deathcore persuasion for sure. Post and pre pandemic are two very different scenes. A lot of the bands from my time either dissolved or had members that wanted to move onto the next chapter in their lives during such an uncertain time. Once lockdown restrictions got lifted a lot of the bands that were left were these metalcore and hardcore adjacent bands. Factor in the influx of nufacks who mostly got into heavy music through shit like tik tok, and the tides were bound to turn as well as the lines between subgenres and knowing the difference between them blurring. Personally, I'm not complaining tho. A lot of the people in those bands are my friends and I'm happy for them and the growth and opportunities they've received. They're playing shows, kids are coming out, dancing hard, and having a good time. What more can you ask for in a scene? As of late tho we've started to have a nice influx of hardcore bands getting thrown into the mix including ours and the JNCO kids here are finally starting to get the idea of the fact that there's a difference between the shit they got into when shows first started coming back and what actual hardcore is which I have to give credit to my big brothers in Ozone for. No Ozone no second wave of Fort Worth Hard Core (shout out Real Talk)



FRI. SEPTEMBER 22, 2023



lxW: This is an Edge Day zine issue so let's talk about straight edge, what does straight edge mean to you and the band? I've seen a lot of people as of late claiming edge while young as hell, I think it's dope but lemme hear your thoughts

F: For me and my brothers, straight edge means going against the grain and wanting better for yourself, calling out the bullshit norms that society has established that are so normalized the we look past the harmful effects they can have on you, and uniting people from all walks of life by sharing a common interest through our convictions, of wanting to live a life free from the shackles of destructive vices. The fact that there are young kids out here claiming edge and taking pride in it is dope as hell for sure. Especially if it's because they want to claim it for themselves. Last thing you wanna be is the guy in your scene who repped being edge the hardest just to fit in and break two years later because you realize you're doing it for the wrong reasons. Just be honest with yourself and do what's best for you.

lxW: Your 5 favorite straight edge bands no order

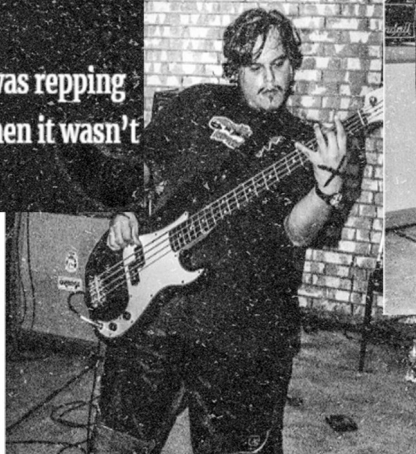
F: man you're out here asking the difficult shit haha. Off the top of my head I'd have to say Wide Awake, Judge, Sportswear, Youth of Today, and Path of Resistance

lxW: What do you think is the most overlooked aspect of straight edge?

F: How deep the unity aspect of being edge actually runs. The fact that something as simple as a conviction and dedication to a lifestyle can bring together people from different walks of life is just so sick to see. You could meet someone and the both of y'all could be from different parts of the world and not even speak the same language, but immediately hit it off simply because of the both of y'all being edge and listening to HC. That shit is just so cool to me. Hell, come to think of it, this interview is a perfect example of this. A Pakistani American country bumpkin and a dude from Tijuana cutting it up simply because of one common interest we both share. Beautiful shit fah real fah real.

lxW: Is there a band from Fort Worth that is underappreciated?

F: In my opinion it's gotta be Real Talk (RIP). The band was repping being from The Funk (Fort Worth) hard during a time when it wasn't very popular to claim being from here.



IxW: Dude I love the demo, Flesh of My Flesh is hands down my favorite song, what's your favorite song from the demo? Which song means the most to you?

F: Ayyy thank you for the kind words Hoss, the lyrics to Flesh were written by our bassist Christian so props to him for that and sharing his story. All I did was re-arrange lyrics and figure out a cadence haha. Out of all the songs on the demo I'd have to say my favorite is Split-Decision. Apart from just being a hard ass song and being heavy on the Dmize worship, its got a special meaning to me. I wrote that one about someone very near and dear to me who I witnessed go through a very severe case of manic bipolar for years to the point where it nearly cost him his life. I'm happy to say he's doing much better now.

IxW: I'll be interviewing Legendary Weapons for this Issue too, I was hoping for you two to play shows together but now that Davis moved it doesn't seem possible but, never say never right? What are your thoughts on LW?

F: Legendary Weapons is the shit. I think it's dope as hell that they've got Kermit the frog on vocals and that he's vegan straight edge too. Kidding haha but all jokes aside it's a sick project. Davis and Sky killed it with that demo and I'm looking forward to the EP when it drops. Also you're absolutely right, never say never ;)

IxW: Thank you so much for this; Fauz! Any parting words? Shout outs?

F: Skinny MFs need to stop buying all the 3X shirts, Cowboys gonna win it this year Foo, and fuck you Ezra. Shoutout to Ozone, Visions of Mortality, One in the Chamber, Grimoire, Deep Cover, Mass Appeal, Crucify, Sheer Force, Inner Self, Upsurge, Lowball, Future Shock, Beyond Reach, Frozen Soul, Tribal Gaze, Fugitive, Imperial Slaughter, Bed of Nails, Real Life Ugly, Barricade, Ritual Abuse, Skourge, Harcourt, Deepincision, Misanthrope, Force of Will, Since my Beloved, Turfburner, Ballista, Soledad, Strange Joy, Coreruption Records, Armageddon Records, Sunday Drive Records, Fort Worth Hard Core, Texas Hardcore, and Straight Edge.



KILL DRUG CULTURE



Immortal Weapon Fanzine advocates for the rejection, abolishment, questioning and eradication of Drug Culture. Although this fanzine isn't exclusively straight edge and will feature non-straight edge bands, I, LxR, will use this fanzine to speak against Drug Culture. I do not care of "alienating" xIWFX's audience due to my somewhat militant views and at the same time comprehending that everyone's different, I care about sending a message to my generation and the next about at the very least thinking of having a clean lifestyle, not everyone can be/should be straight edge, but I want those who have struggled and are struggling with substances to think about a life without them and then have the dedication and responsibility of claiming edge. Immortal Weapon Fanzine would like to thank every single reader and fellow straight edge people, and NOT to every sellout who talks shit about straight edge, every hardcore dropout who thinks this shit is "corny", big pharma companies who profit out of people's suffering. Even if eradicating Drug Culture is a losing battle, I will FOREVER fly this flag, speak against it and have solidarity with addicts who want a better life. Straight Edge, like hardcore, is for anybody not for everybody.

XWEAPONX XXX

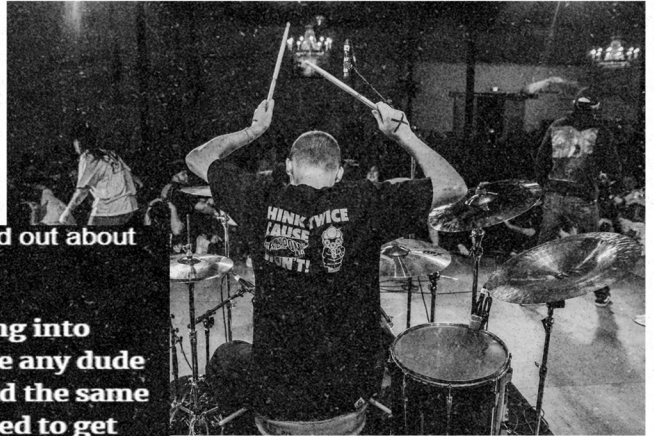
INTERVIEW VIA EMAIL WITH DAVE

lxW: Yo! Thank you for your time Dave, been wanting to have xweaponx in the zine for a minute, let's start with you! How's life treating you? How are we doing?

D: Yo dude, thanks for having me! To be brutally honest, the last month has sucked major shit, but fuck it we ball, right?

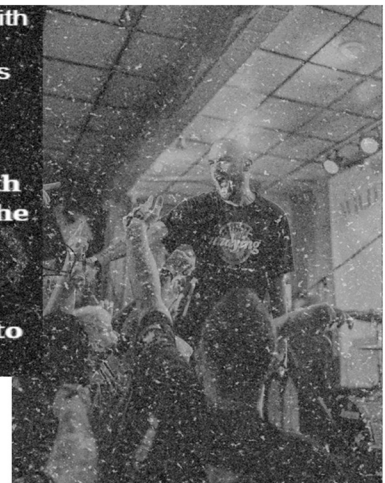
lxW: Introductory question I ask everyone on here. How'd you find out about hardcore?

D: So I went about it the "other way." Once I started getting into guitar music, I slowly worked my way from nu-metal (like any dude into guitar music from my age bracket) into metal. Around the same time, a couple of my closest friends in 8th grade had started to get into some of the big name metalcore stuff at the time (Poison the Well, As I Lay Dying, Unearth, etc). They started letting me borrow CDs from those types of bands, and eventually I started tagging along to shows with them. From there, it opened up a lot of stuff for me when I started seeing some of the more hardcore oriented bands at those shows (like Throwdown). It really opened up when I met some of the more punk oriented guys, with Tyler Short being a big one of them. Our friend Dylan at the time had a minivan that he'd use to come pick all of us up and go to shows in, which let me get around a whole lot more. A couple of guys I met in my freshman year of high school were also riding their bikes to punk shows at the time, so I'd tag along with them as well.



lxW: You're in/from Louisville, it has been on the map pretty hard recently with bands like yours, Inclination, and of course Knocked Loose, but how would you describe the Louisville hardcore scene when you started going to shows and how is it today?

D: Things were pretty different when I was a kid. A lot of the local stuff was a lot more punk-oriented and definitely a lot smaller, both in terms of the amount of people attending local shows as well as the name being on the map -- back then it was bands like Coliseum, Black Cross, etc. Nowadays with MWB/LDB having run for quite a while plus bands like the ones you mentioned as well as Gates to Hell, Two Witnesses, etc, things are a lot "bigger." It's pretty wild to see given that Louisville is a pretty small midwest city.



lxW: This will come out on Edge Day, so how did you find out about it? Was it by your own research, word of mouth, records?

D: So before I claimed I was nominally aware of it -- at that point I was listening to Throwdown, 18 Visions, Black My Heart, etc. I was sitting in the cafeteria in high school wearing the "Raise Your Fist" tee that I had gotten a couple of weeks prior when my friend Patrick (sings for Two Witnesses now) sat at the table with me and asked me if I was straight edge. He had his hands X'd up almost every day in school and was a big punk guy, so we had talked some prior about shows and bands at that point. I gave it some thought throughout that day and night and went to school the next day with my hands X'd up too, and that's where I've been since. I think I X'd up every day of that year of school from that point on.



PICS BY GABE BECERRA, HEATHERXEDGE, HISPANICPANIC28, DETROITPUNK

IxW: You've talked about the idea behind xweaponx before on podcasts, but what I wanted to ask you is if you guys even flirted with the fact that you would blow up the way you did?

D: Dude, note even remotely close. It may sound stupid to say but I just figured it would be a band that our friends would give a shit about and mosh to and that we'd play like 2 shows at home and have that be it. It's been really fucking wild and humbling that anyone outside of that circle gives a shit about this.

IxW: Segway from the previous question and this is mere innocent curiosity, do you personally think the eyes on xweaponx were because of Bryan and Isaac being in the band and the recognition they've earned (which is completely fine in my opinion)? Do you think xweaponx would've had the same reaction if those two weren't in this project?

D: I definitely think that's part of it. The fact of the matter is those guys have a higher profile than most people given their primary band. I'm sure some people have an issue with that but I don't really give a shit. They are straight edge and are actively involved in and give a shit about hardcore and those are the only things that matter.

IxW: The lyrics for the xweaponx demo and the split with World of Pleasure are what I'm looking for in modern straight edge bands, I fuck with both releases heavily. I like that aggressive side of the straight edge, do you think that side needs to come back or is it a time and place thing?

D: Thank you dude! Hardcore is angry music for angry people, and there's a lot to be angry about. Without getting into some sob story bullshit, there is a lot of stuff I grew up with that drove me into deciding to be straight edge and being involved with hardcore in general. I think there's plenty of really aggressive shit from the last few years, so I definitely don't think it's just a time and place thing.

IxW: Yo, how's Armored Core 6? I've seen your tweets about it and can't help but imagine you being glued to the screen since the release haha. Can you tell me about your love for AC?

D: It fucking rocks. I'm a pretty longtime fan of the series and it's very easily the best it's ever been. It also helps that FromSoft has over a decade of making some of the best games ever made under their belts. I cannot recommend it enough.

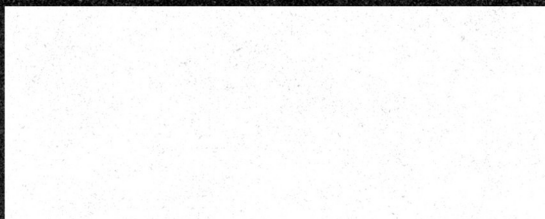
The people and I have been asking for xweaponx to be on wax yo, is that in the plans for the band?

D: I don't know exactly when, but it should be VERY soon. Keep your eyes out!



lxW: The first time I connected with you was when I made that Gomorrah Season Ends rip art for xweaponx, you guys have killer merch, who does the approaching when it comes to telling your designer for some work? Is it you?

D: I wish I could say it was me -- I definitely have some input as far as general ideas, but Bryan has been the driving factor on which designs actually get made. We decided early on that we wanted to do really stupid "gas station" style shirts, like the "Forget the dog...beware XweaponX!" one. I've been sitting on another one for a while -- it would be the cover from Uncanny X-Men #141, with Wolverine and Kitty Pryde in front of the Wanted poster. All of the images on the poster would be changed to friends of ours that sold out and have "Broke/Sold Out/Etc" instead of "Apprehended/Slain."



lxW: What's next for xweaponx? I know you guys have said before that touring would be so hard and near impossible due to KL's tight schedule and outside duties.

D: So right now, we have FYA lined up for January, which I'm really excited for -- I've somehow managed to not go out to it and the lineups are consistently some of the best lineups year to year, and I've been told by so many people that it's just a really great time. We MAY be working on a little run down to FYA but I'm not 100% sure it's happening yet, so I don't wanna blow up the spot just yet.



lxW: That will be all my man, thank you for your time again! Any parting words, shout outs?

D: Shout outs to all of the dope Louisville bands -- Inclination, Gates to Hell, Two Witnesses, Sidestep, Constraint, etc. Don't lose sight.



inclination

Interview via email with Tyler Short

All pics on this
interview by
heatherxedge

lxW: Yo, thank you for your time my man, how are we doing?

T: I am exhausted, man. I think everything is starting to catch up to me in my 30's now. It's not altering my behavior at all but staying active at shows and working 6 days a week is really taking a toll the last few years I just don't bounce back like I did when I was younger and require more pedialyte than I consumed as an infant

lxW: I'll try to not ask you how you got into HC in huge detail, you've done enough podcast interviews (Shout out Ace from Forum of Passion and Jamie Orque) talking about it. But, I'd like to ask you: How did Hardcore change your life?

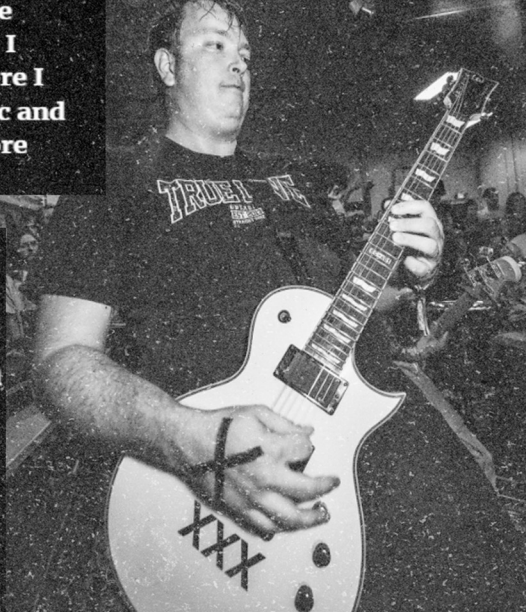
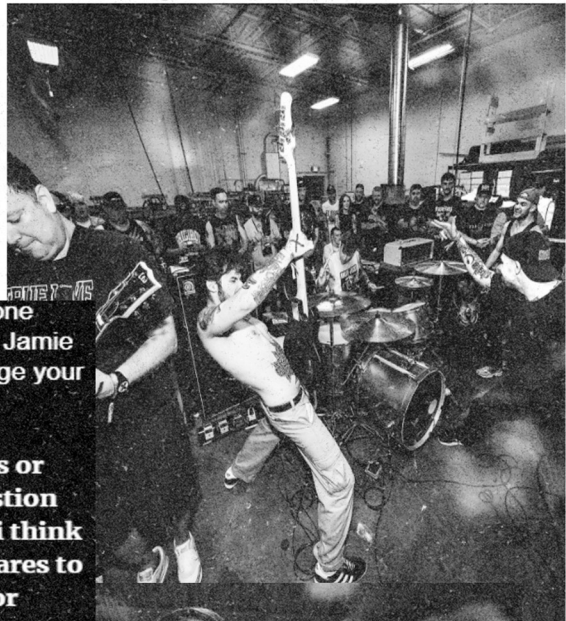
T: Haha yeah there is arguably more content than anyone needs or asked for featuring my voice and ideas but to answer your question hardcore has broken me and ruined a lot of things for me that I think normal people don't notice. Live music for one, nothing compares to hardcore and punk. My ideology and perception of the world for another, because of punk and hardcore I have been much more susceptible to radical thought. I am a straight white male who I believe would have been utterly directionless if not for hardcore I think I could have been swayed toward a much less empathetic and considerate mindset but lucky for me I got radicalized in a more positive direction.

lxW: What was the process in making LDB502 the label? I've always been curious about hardcore labels and their origins.

T: Well, when Another Mistake, my band of like 6 years broke up in 2016 I was all of a sudden left with more income than I was used to because now that I was working more instead of touring not only was I accumulating more I wasn't having to subsidize a dysfunctional band. So I looked around and rather than do something smart and responsible with that money I started a label because life is short and you can't take your money with you.

lxW: I'm interviewing Dave from xWEAPONx and I want to ask you a somewhat similar question, you being from Louisville how would you describe the scene from when you were a teenager to now? Do you think your bands before Inclination would've benefited from how the scene is in your area now?

T: The bands I was in before had to happen when they did for the scene to exist how it is today. I don't want to come off as conceited because they were more or less all nobody bands but they got us through more dead times to end up where we are today. We do need more bands to start though since most of our local acts are constantly on the road now we don't have many options on who to play with touring bands. As far as how the scene has changed there used to be a more steady supply of younger kids which I wish would return because like I said, this really enriched my life at a young impressionable age and I could have gone down unfortunate paths without it.



IxW: I got put on LDB Fest in 2019, watched all the sets available on Youtube and the change the fest has had throughout the years is amazing. What role do you play in the fest? Were you shocked people cared to the point of LDB Fest being, in my opinion, one of the go-to hardcore fest?

T: All I do is go to the fest, sell records at the fest and most years I have played the fest.

It is pretty crazy that Alex and Ryan have coaxed so many people to come to Kentucky for so many years in a row but I'm not surprised. I am certainly biased since it's my home but Louisville is awesome and it's got good energy for hardcore especially up and coming hardcore.



IxW: You're a legendary show-goer and a crazy mosh, if you had to pick one band to go as hard as possible at every show they have near you, who would it be?

T: Oh that is difficult if we are going current bands i would have to say pain of truth. They are in my opinion the best hardcore band at present time. If we are a band from when I was younger I would have to say blacklisted because from 2006-2009 I went to every show they played within 5 or 6 hours of Louisville. If i am allowed to pick a legacy band i would say Underdog just to see them again.



IxW: Edge Day zine so we gotta talk about straight edge. How did you find the straight edge? What does straight edge mean to you and what are your thoughts on kids claiming edge so young? I believe thanks to how accessible yet not mainstream hardcore and sxe are, a lot of people have questioned their own lifestyles and made a change in their lives even though they don't know the lore so to speak about straight edge.

T: When I started going to shows most of the kids in my friend group were already straight edge and I was drug free already but when I heard Judge that pretty much did it for me. As far as kids claiming edge young, I think that is awesome. This is something me and our drummer Chris talk about which is straight edge as a means of safe passage to get kids to their 20's in a positive drug free environment so if they decide to use drugs they will do it at an age where they could at least be safer. As far as lore and what not goes, I think that there are people of all ages who are using drugs and unhappy or drug free and alienated. I think straight edge can be a constructive thing for anyone who chooses to identify with the ideas, energy and communion it provides.

IxW: You are very vocal about drug abuse and addiction, what would you say to someone who's struggling with substances or thinking about relapsing?

T: I don't think anyone thinks about relapsing; it just happens. My advice though for anyone who feels out of control is therapy and community. You aren't alone, there are lots of people going through similar shit and you can find them. They are at recovery meetings, they are your family members, they are everywhere you look. In the United States for a fact we are the most heavily medicated we have ever been. We are all high as fuck just to get through our painful lives it's not your fault you fell into this most likely something happened to you probably years ago you weren't equipped to deal with so you find yourself here. At the end of the day you gotta want to ask for help and accept it and straight up don't feel so ashamed everyone is fucking human.



All pics on this interview by heatherxedge

IxW: On the same token, straight edge has been known for its aggressive, militant side. Do you think there's a time and place to have that mentality or should be left in the past?

T: It's fucking boring. It can be funny and I can enjoy it tongue in cheek but I am 35 years old and straight edge is actually something I believe in. Lots of people think that shit is corny and maybe they are right but machismo is so passé unless it's being directed at actual enemies. I'm sorry but people dealing drugs to survive are not my enemy. The companies profiting off destroying lives and the politicians who facilitate that, not to mention the US agencies responsible for a majority of our drug trade, those are my enemies.

IxW: Inclination has been on a roll after its debut LP, I've been a fan since the first release. Now that Unaltered Perspective is almost a year old, what are YOUR thoughts on the record, where was your mentality for this?

T: It's definitely the hardest I have ever tried on lyrics for a record. I really wanted it to have a coherent throughline and I hope that is clear. I really wanted to write something lyrically that wouldn't give any false assumptions on where I stand on things. I think I could have done better but I can be pretty critical of myself.

IxW: Going back to LDB502, what is the most difficult thing the label has to do?

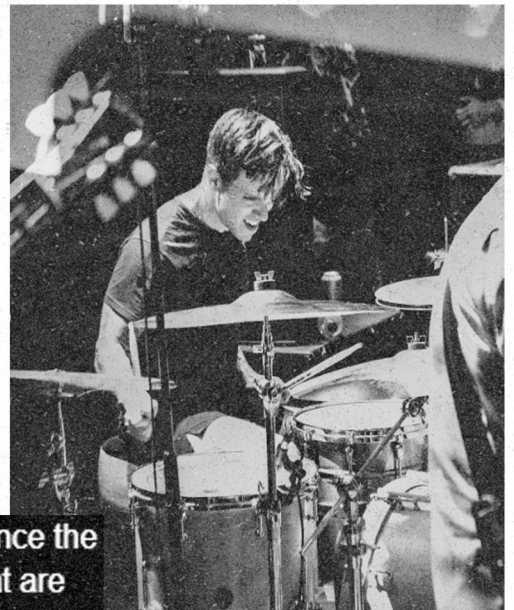
T: It's about an even split between staying organized when it bleeds into multiple rooms in our house and making bills in a timely manner to keep production running as smoothly as possible. I do the label with a goal of breaking even but I have a habit of immediately spending everything we make starting new projects so I'm not going to say how much but a good amount of my personal income goes into LDB

IxW: Underrated Kentucky or Louisville bands? Past or present

T: Past: Falling Forward and Automatic
Present: Two Witnesses I actually think a lot of present Louisville bands are accurately rated with Gates To Hell absolutely killing it.

IxW: What's the origin behind Inclination's name and how did the band come to life?

T: Origin of the band was more or less Caleb, Isaac and I really wanting to do a band and specifically a straight edge band for awhile. I had the name Inclination picked out when the band was going to have a different sound and different line up. Isaac was originally planning on drumming before he wrote the first two songs on guitar and we realized he'd not only have to play guitar but the band was going to actually be good as well haha



All pics on this interview by heatherxedge

IxW: One Inclination song that has stuck with me is "A Decision" from the LP. I think it is a generational song at the same level of Firestorm from Earth Crisis, can I get you to talk a little bit more in-depth about this song?

T: Well idk about that but I really wanted to write a song about claiming edge. Making a choice with your identity and what it was like to be on that fence before picking a side. Everyone's lives look different from each other so I wanted to have co-writers on it and I had Ryan and Russ in mind the whole time. Most of the songs on that record were written before music except for a decision and commitment to self.



IxW: What's an underrated band under LDB502 that people should check out?

T: I would say Rain of Salvation or Victory Garden. They are both side projects of way more successful bands but I still think those 7"s are fucking awesome. I would have said World I Hate but with their new record on WAR I actually think they are getting the shine they deserve.



IxW: That's it my man, for real thank you for your time on this! Any future plans for LDB502, Inclination or other projects you're making? Shoutouts and parting words are always appreciated!

T: Thanks for asking man. I do so many podcasts but hardly ever do zine interviews. As far as LDB I am going to keep putting out records for bands I believe in. I hope Inclination gets to play more shows or fests next year. I hope my other band Constraint writes more music and gets to play more in general. I am doing a Country music Podcast with my friend Brian from Perfect World called Hardcore Troubadour if anyone needs more of me in their life. As far as parting words, I hope people spend more time with their friends and less time at work. Work fucking sucks and we all do it far too much. Read into that however you want.



All pics on this interview by heatherxedge

DOPE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mask of Truth Printing will have this tee available for purchase right now (10/17). Edge Day tees, shout out to Maskoftruthprinting on instagram for allowing me to promote his stuf, he puts a ton of love and detail on each drop he releases.

MASK OF TRUTH X GEOFRONT_PDX



EDGE DAY . OCT 17, 2023

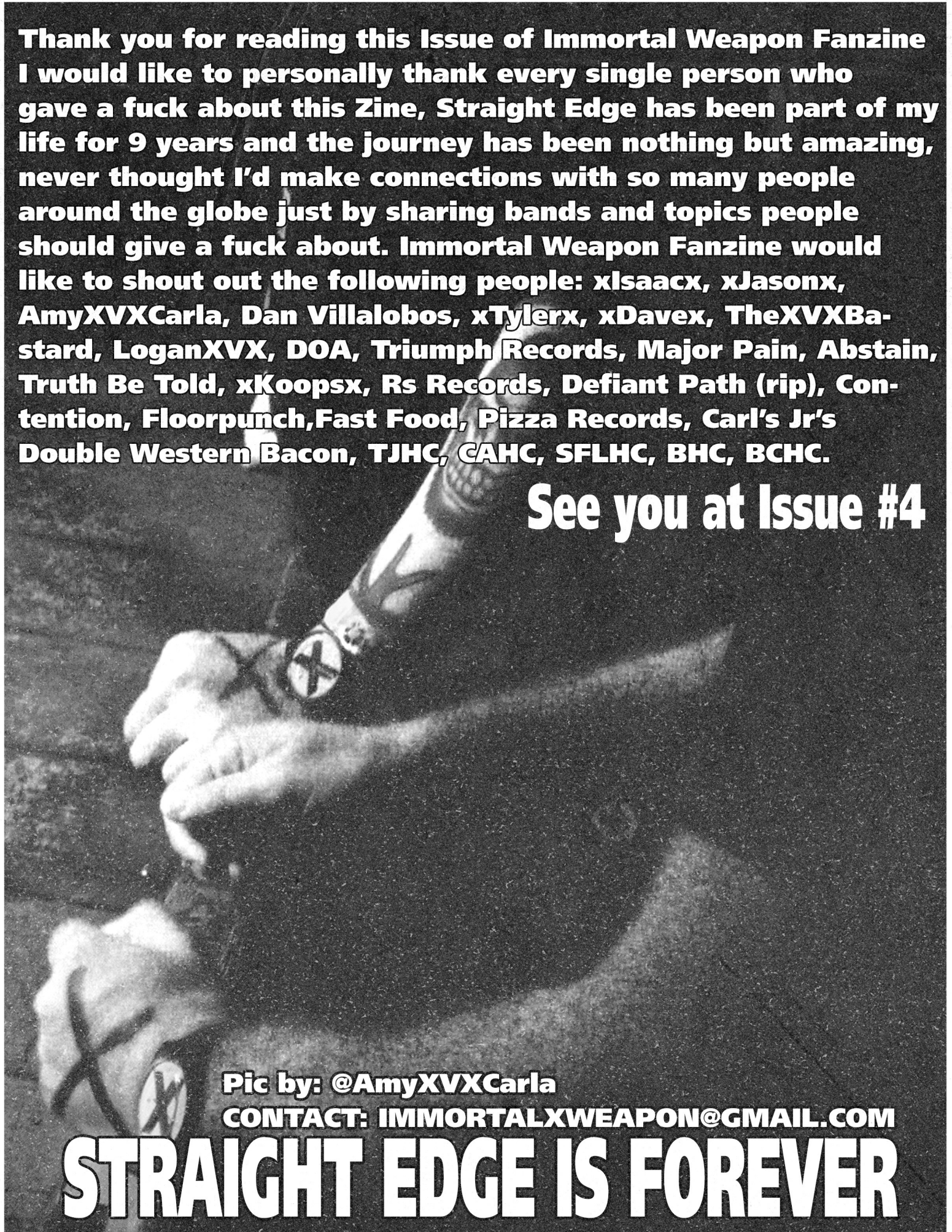
Also ANOTHA tee in collaboration between me and Contraband Closet, we're bringing back this old school Victory Records "Drinking Sucks!" design on tees and hoodies! This has been one of my most sought after hardcore related merch and i'm glad I got the chance to remake this with John Davis (ContrabandCloset on Instagram) Scoop one if you can, this is also an Edge Day drop so I apologize for making you spend so much cash.



While you're at it, go scoop a Legendary Weapons tape, these dudes are the coolest motherfuckers on earth, even if Davis is a hater, I love the guy. Listen to LXW.

**Links: [Contrabandcloset.bigcartel.com](https://contrabandcloset.bigcartel.com)
[Maskoftruthprinting.bigcartel.com](https://maskoftruthprinting.bigcartel.com)**





Thank you for reading this Issue of Immortal Weapon Fanzine I would like to personally thank every single person who gave a fuck about this Zine, Straight Edge has been part of my life for 9 years and the journey has been nothing but amazing, never thought I'd make connections with so many people around the globe just by sharing bands and topics people should give a fuck about. Immortal Weapon Fanzine would like to shout out the following people: xlsaacx, xJasonx, AmyXVXCarla, Dan Villalobos, xTylerx, xDavex, TheXVXBastard, LoganXVX, DOA, Triumph Records, Major Pain, Abstain, Truth Be Told, xKoopsx, Rs Records, Defiant Path (rip), Contention, Floorpunch, Fast Food, Pizza Records, Carl's Jr's Double Western Bacon, TJHC, CAHC, SFLHC, BHC, BCHC.

See you at Issue #4

Pic by: @AmyXVXCarla

CONTACT: IMMORTALXWEAPON@GMAIL.COM

STRAIGHT EDGE IS FOREVER